

# Journey to College



## THREE STEPS

**CAN PUT YOU ON  
A PATH TOWARD  
EARNING A  
CERTIFICATE OR  
DEGREE.**

For more information visit [journeytocollege.mo.gov](http://journeytocollege.mo.gov).

***The best time to apply to college is the fall of your senior year. Think about the kind of certificate or degree you want to earn and the type of school you need to attend.***

## APPLY MISSOURI

Many high schools host Apply Missouri events in September and October to provide time during the school day to submit applications to colleges.

### Things to bring:

- ACT or SAT score, GPA, Class Rank
- Official High School Transcript
- A USB with college essays or personal statements you have written.
- Credit card information to pay for college application fees (or fee waiver information as obtained from your counselor).

For more information visit [journeytocollege.mo.gov/apply-missouri/](http://journeytocollege.mo.gov/apply-missouri/).

College costs can vary depending on the school you attend and the type of certificate or degree you are seeking. Many students receive financial aid to help pay for college.

Be sure to fill out the FAFSA —the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA is required for most federal, state and college financial aid, including grants, scholarships, work-study and student loans.

Seeking out other scholarships and part-time job opportunities also can help with college costs.

## FAFSA FRENZY

You can receive free help filling out the FAFSA at a FAFSA Frenzy event near you. Events are held at high schools, colleges and other locations in Missouri throughout the year.

### Things to bring:

- FSA ID – Before attending a FAFSA Frenzy event, students and parents should set up their Federal Student Aid Account (FSA ID) username and password at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).
- Social Security Number or alien registration number or permanent resident card.
- Student and parent federal income tax forms and W-2 forms. Students classified as independent do not need parent information. (see [StudentAid.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/dependency](http://StudentAid.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/dependency)).
- Current bank statements and investment records.

For more information about filling out the FAFSA, and finding a FAFSA Frenzy event near you visit [journeytocollege.mo.gov/fafsa-frenzy/](http://journeytocollege.mo.gov/fafsa-frenzy/).

Choosing a college that is the best fit for you will help you succeed in earning a certificate or degree. Once you have been admitted, you are ready to enroll in classes, finalize funding, and arrange for housing and transportation.

Be sure to meet all deadlines set by your college so you are ready to go when the semester begins.

## DECISION DAY

High schools throughout Missouri host Decision Day events on or near May 1 to celebrate seniors' plans for entering higher education, military service, or the workforce.

If you have not applied to college by the end of your senior year, it is not too late. Talk with your high school counselor about opportunities that are still available.

For more information about finalizing your college decisions, visit [journeytocollege.mo.gov/decision-day/](http://journeytocollege.mo.gov/decision-day/).